

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (currently amended): In a telecommunication system configured to provide a connection between a caller and a callee via a telephone an advanced intelligent network (AIN), wherein the telephone network AIN is configured to connect the caller and the callee, a method for blocking future calls from the caller to the callee, the method comprising:

connecting a call from the caller to the callee;

receiving an instruction from the callee to block future calls from the caller to the callee;

identifying a first telephone number associated with the caller; and

storing the first telephone number associated with the caller in a caller block table in a service data point (SDP); and

preventing, via a service switching point (SSP), one or more phone calls from the first telephone number from being forwarded to a second telephone number associated with the callee.

Claim 2 (original). The method as in claim 1, wherein receiving an instruction from the callee includes:

detecting an off-hook signal from callee; and

receiving a predetermined code from the callee.

Claim 3 (original). The method as in claim 2, wherein the predetermined code includes at least one of the following:

one or more digits; and

one or more non-numeric symbols.

Claim 4 (previously presented). The method as in claim 1, wherein identifying the first telephone number includes:

maintaining a record of the most recent telephone number that was a source of a call placed to the second telephone number immediately prior to receiving the callee's instruction to block future calls from the caller to the callee; and

consulting the record to identify the most recent telephone number as the first telephone number.

Claim 5 (original). The method as in claim 2, wherein receiving the predetermined code includes:

receiving a first portion of the predetermined code;
prompting the callee to send a second portion of the predetermined code; and
receiving the second portion of the predetermined code.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (original). The method as in claim 5, further comprising prompting the callee to perform administration tasks.

Claim 8 (original). The method as in claim 7, wherein prompting the callee includes prompting the callee to record a message to be played to the caller.

Claim 9 (original). The method as in claim 7, wherein prompting the callee includes prompting the callee to select a pre-recorded message to be played to the caller.

Claim 10 (original). The method as in claim 1, further comprising one of charging a subscription fee to the callee and charging a per-usage fee to the callee.

Claims 11 and 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended). A telecommunications system, comprising:
a service switching point (SSP) telecommunications switch in communication with a first telecommunications device associated with a callee and a second telecommunications device associated with a caller wherein the switch SSP connects a call from the caller to the callee; and
a controller service control point (SCP) in communication with the SSP switch, the controller SCP having stored thereon instructions and data which, when executed, cause the telecommunications system to:

recognize an instruction from the callee to block future calls from the caller to the callee;

identify a first telephone number associated with the caller; and
prevent one or more phone calls from the first telephone number from being forwarded to
a second telephone number associated with the callee.

Claim 14 (original). The system of claim 13, wherein recognizing an instruction from the callee includes:

detecting an off-hook signal from callee; and
receiving a predetermined code from the callee.

Claim 15 (currently amended). The system of claim 13, further comprising a database in communication with the ~~controller~~ SCP.

Claim 16 (currently amended). The system of claim 13, further comprising an interactive voice response system in communication with the ~~controller~~ SCP and the ~~switch~~ SSP.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The system of claim 13, further comprising a service creation computer in communication with the ~~controller~~ SCP.

Claims 18-20 (canceled).